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NOTES.

Professor T. H. Stafford, of Williams College, died June 13th, aged sixty-seven years.

Professor C. S. James, formerly Professor of Mathematics and Physics in Bucknell College, died June 8th.

In the October number of THE MONTHLY will appear a paper "On Systems of Isothermal Curves," by Dr. L. E. Dickson.

Professor L. T. Neikirk, Boulder, Colorado, has been given a Fellowship in Mathematics in the University of Pennsylvania and has gone there for research work.

Dr. L. E. Dickson has in press a College Algebra. This work is being published by John Wiley & Sons and its appearance will be looked forward to with much interest by both mathematicians and teachers of mathematics.

Dr. G. A. Miller, formerly of Cornell University, but now of Leland Stanford University, will give the following courses the present academic year: *Trigonometry*, 2 hours; *History of Mathematics*, 2 hours; *Theory of Numbers*, 2 hours; *Group Theory*, 2 hours.

Professor F. P. Matz has been elected Professor of Mathematics and Astronomy in Defiance College, Defiance, Ohio. In the October number of THE MONTHLY will appear a brief biography of Dr. Thomas Craig, which biography has been prepared by Professor Matz.

BOOKS.

Higher Algebra. By George Egbert Fisher, A. M., Ph. D., and I. J. Schwatt, Ph. D., Assistant Professors of Mathematics in the University of Pennsylvania. 8vo, Cloth sides and Leather back. xviii+615+xviii pages. Published by the authors.

This book is such an arrangement of the authors' *Elements of Algebra* and *School Algebra*, together with such revisions and additions of new matter as to make a course of study in the subject suitable for use in the first year in colleges. To the end of Chapter XXVIII the *Higher Algebra* is identical with the *Elements of Algebra* and the *School Algebra*. These two books have been most favorably mentioned in previous issues of this Journal. In the additions incorporated in the Higher Algebra, the authors have maintained the same felicity of expression, simplicity and rigor in demonstration as has characterized their previous works. They have, in the Higher Algebra, prepared a text-book which will be highly appreciated by all who use it.

B. F. F.

Theoretical Mechanics. An Elementary Treatise. By W. Woolsey Johnson, Professor of Mathematics, U. S. Naval Academy. 12mo, cloth, xv+434 pages. Price, \$3.00. New York: John Wiley & Sons.

In this book the author has taken great care in laying the fundamental principles of the subject on a firm foundation. No formal divisions of the subject into Kinematics, Statics, and Kinetics has been made. The topics usually included under the first head are introduced separately, each at the point where it is required for immediate application to the treatment of the motions produced by forces. In like manner, the other subjects have received such treatment as seemed to the author the most logical method. Special prominence is given to those results which it is the most important to make familiar to the student of Applied Mechanics. Numerous interesting problems have been selected as exercises coming under the various subjects.

B. F. F.

One Hundred Problems in Mathematical Physics. By E. P. Thompson, A. M., Professor of Mathematics, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. 8vo, cloth, 52 pages. Published by the author.

This little book contains interesting problems on the steam-engine, the dynamo, the top, gyroscope and bicycle; and on the use of instruments, graphics, quaternions, least squares, strength of materials, gunnery, and other subjects. The book is intended to be used in connection with mathematical and physical classes and will be found helpful and suggestive to teachers and students.

B. F. F.

Original Investigation or How to Attack an Exercise in Geometry, With many Model Solutions and a Complete Discussion of the Principles Underlying the Same. By Elisha S. Loomis, Ph. D., Head of Mathematical Department of the West High School, Cleveland, Ohio. 8vo, Flexible cloth. vi + 62 pages. Boston and Chicago. Ginn & Co.

In this little work is found many suggestions of the highest value to teachers. In it, Professor Loomis has given the results of his twenty years' experience in teaching geometry and these will be most helpful to all teachers desiring to present the subject to their pupils in most pedagogical and scientific manner. We most heartily recommend it to the study of both teacher and pupil.

B. F. F.

College Algebra. By James Harrington Boyd, Ph. D., Assistant Professor of Mathematics in the University of Chicago. 8vo, cloth and leather back. xxi+787 pages. Price, \$2 00. Chicago: Scott, Foresman & Co

This is one of the most, if not the most voluminous algebras that has yet been published in this country. Its size having increased its cost, together with the fact that it is too comprehensive to be covered in the time allotted to the subject in the first year of the college course, will hinder to some extent the adoption of this book in some schools. However, where the students can afford to purchase a good book, it is best to put into their hands the best possible texts so that they may gain a knowledge of those refined generalizations and demonstrations which have come into fairly general use at the present time. This book has been carefully prepared. Special attention is given to rigor and logical sequence which is demanded by the best teachers, to the development of the number concept, and to the use of geometrical illustrations in so far as they very strikingly force the attention of the student to the principle involved. Emphasis is placed upon the principle of the permanence of form, the discussion of the irrational, the theory of fractional exponents, and complex numbers. The book is well written and is worthy of extended use in colleges and universities.

B. F. F.